



# York Interfaith Group

## Bulletin for March 2025

Dear friends and members,

For various reasons the March newsletter omitted some important announcements for this month, so we are including them in this special bulletin. They consist of a note on the Eco Action Day at St Nicks Environmental Centre on 29 March and details of the welcome bags needed for refugees newly arriving in York, both from our Vice Chair Dee Boyle; some information on a Purim event being held this year on 14 March, from Sarah Hubbard; an invitation to a Unity Iftar at the Mosque on 15 March; and details of a celebration of Baha'i New Year on 22 March to which you are cordially invited.

Rory Allen, editor

### **Eco Action Day**

The Social Action Group at York Unitarians have organised an Eco Action Day of Walking, Poetry and Eco Craft Making at St Nicks Environmental Centre in York to help raise awareness of the work they do there and to raise funds for them. If you would like to take part in this day on 29th March please contact Dee Boyle for further details ([deeboyle@gn.apc.org](mailto:deeboyle@gn.apc.org)). Members of York Interfaith Group are invited to join them on this special day. They are limited as to how many people can fit into the space in buildings on their site for the Eco Craft making, so please do book a place if you want to take part in those activities. There is probably no limit on people for the walks, but it will still be good to know numbers attending.

In the morning there will be an option of a long walk or a short walk which you can get sponsored for, or just give a donation. Along the walk there will be some rest places to hear poems by local poets about the area, the wild life and the environment. In the afternoon there is also an opportunity to take part in some eco craft making from whatever is available at the time, and to be able to take your creations home with you afterwards. Well behaved dogs on leads will be welcome, especially for the walks. Please bring a packed lunch with you. Drinks will be available at the centre.

Just in case of any major weather warnings, i.e. snow or storms / gale force winds etc., that are announced for the day that is selected, the event may need to be postponed but it will go ahead at a later date.

*About St Nicks:* St Nicolas Fields Environmental Centre, to give it the full title, is situated in Rawdon Ave, York YO10 3FW. They manage a thriving 24 acre nature reserve that is free to explore 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Their volunteer team help maintain and manage the reserve for the benefit of people and wildlife. They have recently expanded into managing green corridors around York. They also started to help the City of York Council & YIG last year with additional work on our Interfaith Tree site on the Clifton Ings and they hope to take a more active part in our 'Tree Care' sessions during the year.



### **Refugee Welcome Bags**

We are once again asking for support with the Welcome Bags that we offer to all of the new refugees arriving in York. We try to make sure that each new family has a bag of items to enable them to cook themselves a meal and also have items for breakfast and any drinks required when they first arrive. If you or your faith groups would like some more bags to fill with items we would be most grateful for your help. The project is organised by York City of Sanctuary and the bags are provided by them. The bags can be collected and dropped off at the Unitarian Chapel once they are ready, and they arrange for them to be taken to Refugee Action York who give them to the refugee families. Bags can be picked up from the Unitarian Chapel on a Thursday morning between 10.30 and 11am or 12 and 12.30pm or on a Sunday morning before or after their service, which is at 11am to 12midday, and dropped off at the same place/same times. If you need any more information please contact Dee Boyle on [deeboyle@gn.apc.org](mailto:deeboyle@gn.apc.org)

The new list of items suggested for each bag is:

Cooking Oil, Flour or a small bag of bread mix, rice, pasta or cous-cous.

Tins of chickpeas, red kidney beans, lentils & chopped tomatoes.

Or

Dried chickpeas, kidney beans, lentils

Vegetable stock cubes, box of cuppa soups or 2 tins of soup

Tea, coffee, breakfast cereal, long life milk, biscuits or a similar treat

Please make sure that all items are suitable for vegetarians so that they can be given to people from all faiths or cultures.

## Marking Purim 2025

An event to celebrate Purim is being held this year on 14 March in York. Numbers are limited so if anyone wishes to attend, please email Sarah Hubbard on [s.hubbard25@hotmail.com](mailto:s.hubbard25@hotmail.com) for further information.



## Invitation to Taste Ramadan at York Mosque, Saturday 15 March at 4.45pm

Dear Honourable Guest,

I hope this message finds you safe and well.

On behalf of the community and management team of York Mosque, we cordially invite you to **Taste Ramadan** with us on Saturday 15 March. The Experience Ramadan event is in partnership with the **Unity Iftar** initiative taking place at hundreds of mosques around the UK.

York Mosque would like to share our experience of Ramadan with you; this will include a short talk about Ramadan, followed by a meal provided by York Mosque.

The mosque has limited car parking on site. If possible, please car share, arrive by taxi/public transport or walk if you live nearby.

If you have any special requirements, e.g. food allergies, please don't hesitate to let us know by emailing: [rasha.salah.ibrahim@gmail.com](mailto:rasha.salah.ibrahim@gmail.com)

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the York Mosque Scouts, Executive Team, Leaders, and Volunteers for their fundraising efforts which is co-funding this event.

We sincerely hope you will be able to join us.

Peace and Blessings

York Mosque Management Team



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING  
THE BAHÁ'Í NEW YEAR

# NAW-RUZ!

SPACE TO CHAT, EAT, AND  
WELCOME IN THE SPRING!

MUSIC, ARTS AND CHILD-FRIENDLY  
CRAFTS, STARTING WITH A POT  
LUCK BRUNCH - FEEL FREE TO  
BRING A DISH/SNACK TO SHARE

**SATURDAY 22ND MARCH**

10AM-12:30PM  
ST AELDRED'S COMMUNITY CENTRE  
216 FIFTH AVE, YO31 0PN